

To : DHR and OCI Reading Panels
Thru : Chief, D/S
Chief, St/S
From : Chief, S/CST

27 July 1957

Subject: Revision of Construction Branch Requirements for Reading Panels

1. Mission and functions of the Branch

The Construction Branch is responsible for producing all source economic intelligence on the construction of fixed installations and the production of construction materials within the Sino-Soviet Bloc. The scope of responsibility generally includes construction organizations, costs, methods, capabilities, and design standards and the production and distribution of various types of construction materials.

2. Areas of interest

a. Geographical areas

The interests of the Construction Branch are mainly limited to the Sino-Soviet Bloc countries and peripheral areas. The Construction Branch does have a strong interest in trade or other agreements entered into by any country with any member of the Sino-Soviet Bloc which involves construction operations, the furnishing or receipt of construction materials, construction equipment, technical assistance and training, or other construction activities of any sort. The branch is interested, also, in certain free world construction activities, particularly in Southeast Asia and the Middle East.

b. Commodity fields

Commodity fields in which the branch has strong interests are:

- (1) Construction materials of all types
- (2) Equipment used in the production of construction materials
- (3) Construction equipment

c. Construction activities

Construction activities within the responsibility of the branch are limited to the construction of all types of fixed installations; including such facilities as: housing, industrial buildings, dams, bridges, electric power plants, highways, railroads, airfields, canals, water conservancy projects, factories, agricultural buildings, etc., but does not include the assembly of equipment or the building of boats and similar objects. (As an example of this, the branch is interested in the construction of facilities such as shipyards, piers, docks and repair bases, but is not interested in the building or repair of the ships themselves).

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Topical class listing

a. Construction materials (in the order of their relative importance)

- (1) Cement
- (2) Brick, tile, pipe, and other clay products
- (3) Precast concrete products (including prestressed concrete products)
- (4) Structural and reinforcing steel
- (5) Lumber for construction (both sawn and round)
- (6) Asbestos-cement products
- (7) Flat glass
- (8) Soft roofing
- (9) Stone, sand, and gravel
- (10) Lime (non-agricultural)
- (11) Gypsum
- (12) Prefabricated housing
- (13) Dimension or cut stone

b. Equipment used in the production of construction materials

- (1) Cement plant equipment
 - (a) Rotary kilns (or ovens)
 - (b) Crushing and grinding equipment (hammer crusher, jaw crusher, cement mill, ball mill, pulverizer, tube mill, etc.)
 - (c) Conveyors
(various types such as apron and trough-belt type, bucket elevators, pneumatic, screw-types, etc.)
 - (d) Mud pumps, storing hoppers, screens, etc.
- (2) Brick plant equipment
 - (a) Crushing or grinding equipment
 - (b) Pug mills
 - (c) Clay mixers
 - (d) Brick presses
 - (e) Brick kilns
- (3) Precast concrete products plant equipment
 - (a) Concrete mixers
 - (b) Cement and aggregate storage bins or hoppers
 - (c) Scales
 - (d) Conveying equipment
 - (e) Wire and rod tensioning equipment
 - (f) Screening equipment
 - (g) Reusable and specialized forms
 - (h) Curing equipment

c. Construction equipment

- (1) Tractors and bulldozers
- (2) Excavating and hauling equipment

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- (3) Road graders
- (4) Building cranes
- (5) Concrete mixing and placing equipment
- (6) Rollers

d. Construction activities

The fields of construction in which the branch has interest include:

- (1) Manufacturing plants (all types)
- (2) Processing plants (all types)
- (3) Raw Materials productive facilities:
 - (a) Mining
 - (b) Forestry
 - (c) Agriculture
 - (d) N.E.C.
- (4) Services and Utilities
 - (a) Airfields
 - (b) Highways
 - (c) Railroads
 - (d) Ports
 - (e) Canals, dams, and inland waterways
 - (f) Electric power plants and transmission lines
 - (g) Water supply and sewers
 - (h) Pipelines
 - (i) Bridges & Tunnels
 - (j) N.E.C.
- (5) Underground installations (all types)
- (6) Civilian and administrative construction
 - (a) Housing
 - (b) Offices and stores
 - (c) Hospitals
 - (d) Public buildings
 - (e) Government buildings
 - (f) Schools and cultural buildings
 - (g) Civil defense structures
 - (h) Research facilities
 - (i) N.E.C.
- (7) Military construction
 - (a) Camps and barracks
 - (b) Storage depots
 - (c) Fortifications
 - (d) Naval bases
 - (e) Shelters

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- (3) Training areas
- (8) Airfields
- (h) Guided missiles launching sites
- (i) N.E.C.

4. Description of types of data desired

a. Construction materials

- (1) Location and description of producing plants
- (2) Production and production capabilities of individual plants
- (3) Unit costs and prices
- (4) Annual production statistics (aggregate and individual plant)
- (5) Import-export statistics and information
- (6) Labor required for production (aggregate and individual plants)
- (7) Organization for production (administrative organization and any changes)
- (8) Inputs and shortages
- (9) Investment and expansion
- (10) Quality of production
- (11) Capacity of the industry
- (12) Regional distribution of production and consumption

b. Construction equipment

- (1) Description
- (2) Quality and performance data
- (3) Extent of utilization
- (4) Costs

c. Construction activities

- (1) Organization from ministerial through project level
- (2) Methods and procedures used
- (3) Costs and quantities of labor and materials used
- (4) Degree of mechanization on individual projects
- (5) Design standards and criteria
- (6) Quality of finished work
- (7) Unit costs of work performed, such as square meter of housing, cubic meter of excavation, kilometer of railroad, etc.
- (8) Overall costs of finished items or projects
- (9) Dimensions and sizes of buildings, building elements, structures, etc.
- (10) Economic and statistical data on volume and costs of construction in various fields and areas.
- (11) Strength and breakdown of labor force

d. Planning and fulfillment data

(1) Sino-Soviet Bloc official statistics and reports dealing with construction activities or construction materials including trade and technical assistance agreements with other countries and within the Bloc.

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e. Investment Data

The branch has a continuing high priority interest in data on the position of the construction industry as a component of investment in the national economy. Such data will appear in several forms such as:

- (1) Money value, physical volume, or percentage of investment which is allocated or consumed by increases in fixed capital stock.
- (2) The volume (in money, physical terms, or percentage) of expenditures devoted to construction activities (Capital work, Capital Investment, or Capital Construction are used synonymously).
- (3) Capital investment as a portion of total product (Gross National Product, Total Output, etc.)
- (4) The distribution of investment between the various types of construction activity (Industrial, Agricultural, Transportation, Power, Military, Housing, Civil Defense, etc.) in money, physical or percentage terms.
- (5) The distribution of investment between allocations to plant and allocations to equipment and the distribution between new capital accumulation (new plant and equipment) and allocations to maintenance and repair of fixed capital.

f. Listing of Source Publications

Current Digest of Soviet Press
Selections from The Soviet Press (State Department)
FDD publications pertinent to Branch Interest
Foreign Trade Journals pertinent to Branch Interest

25X1C8

25X1C8a

25X1C8a

Busats Press Summaries
Summary of World Broadcasts, BBC (L) Part V, the Far East, U

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6. Branch Personnel to be Contacted for Additional Clarification

25X1A9a
Branch Chief [REDACTED]

USSR - [REDACTED]

- xl597

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- xl597

- xl597

- xl597

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Rusets [REDACTED]

Asiatic Satellites - [REDACTED]

- xl597

- xl597

Construction Materials (all areas) - [REDACTED]

- xl597

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[REDACTED]

Distribution:

- 2 - St/S
- 12 - OCI Reading Panel
- 10 - S/CST
- 32 - ORR Reading Panel (Plus Ditto Master)
- 2 - D/S

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